



## Ideal Islamic Education for the Future

**Fatimah**

Universitas Islam Negeri Syekh Ali Hasan Ahmad Addary Padangsidimpuan  
e-mail [Fatimahsihombing255@gmail.com](mailto:Fatimahsihombing255@gmail.com)

### **Abstract**

The ideal Islamic education for the future aims to form individuals who are not only academically intelligent, but also have strong character and good morals. This study uses a comprehensive literature analysis methodology, by reviewing various sources and references related to Islamic education and best practices from education systems in various countries. The results of the study indicate that the integration of Islamic values in the education curriculum is very important to create a generation that is able to face global challenges. In addition, a holistic approach that combines spiritual, moral, and intellectual aspects has proven effective in shaping the character of students. The recommendations produced include the development of a curriculum that is more contextual and relevant to the needs of the times, as well as training for educators to apply innovative teaching methods.

Keywords: Islamic Education, Character, Morals, Integration

### **INTRODUCTION**

Islamic education has a very important role in shaping the character and morals of the younger generation. In an ever-changing global context, the challenges faced by humanity are increasingly complex, so quality and relevant education is a must. Islamic education focuses not only on the academic aspect, but also on moral and spiritual development. Therefore, it is important to formulate an ideal Islamic education concept for the future, which is able to answer the challenges of the times and meet the needs of society (Al-Attas, S. M. N. (2021).

Along with the development of technology and information, the way of learning and teaching has also undergone a significant transformation. Today's young generation is faced with a variety of diverse information, which is not always in line with Islamic values. In this context, Islamic education must be able to provide clear and comprehensive guidance for students to sort and select information that is in accordance with religious teachings. Thus, Islamic education must adapt and innovate to remain relevant and

effective in shaping the character of students (Hamid, A. (2022)

An ideal Islamic education must integrate spiritual, moral, and intellectual values. It is important to create individuals who are not only academically intelligent, but also socially conscious and responsible for the environment. In this case, education must emphasize the importance of morals and ethics in every aspect of life. Thus, Islamic education not only functions as a transfer of knowledge, but also as a process of forming a complete character (Zulkarnain, M. (2023).

One of the main challenges in Islamic education is how to integrate a curriculum that is in accordance with Islamic values without ignoring the needs and demands of the times. The ideal curriculum must be able to accommodate the development of science and technology, while still adhering to the principles of Islamic teachings. Therefore, the development of a contextual and relevant curriculum is very important to create quality education.

In addition, the role of educators in Islamic education is also very crucial. Educators not only

function as teachers, but also as role models for students. Therefore, educators must have a deep understanding of Islamic values and be able to apply them in the learning process. Training and professional development for educators is one of the important steps to improve the quality of Islamic education in the future.

In the context of globalization, Islamic education must also be able to answer the challenges of intercultural interaction. The younger generation needs to be equipped with the ability to adapt and interact with different cultures and values. Ideal Islamic education must be able to instill an attitude of tolerance and mutual respect, so that students can become ambassadors of peace and harmony in the midst of a pluralistic society.

The importance of character education in Islamic education also cannot be ignored. Character education should be an integral part of the curriculum, with the aim of forming individuals who are not only intelligent, but also have integrity and responsibility. Through character education, students are expected to be able to internalize positive values and apply them in their daily lives.

In order to achieve this goal, collaboration between various parties, including the government, educational institutions, and the community, is very necessary. The synergy between all these elements will create an educational ecosystem that supports the development of ideal Islamic education. Thus, Islamic education can contribute significantly in creating a quality generation that is ready to face future challenges.

## **METHOD**

The methodology of this study uses a comprehensive literature analysis approach to explore the ideal concept of Islamic education for the future. This approach was chosen because it

allows researchers to collect and analyze a variety of relevant sources of information, including books, journal articles, research reports, and education policy documents. In this way, researchers can gain a deeper understanding of the various perspectives and practices in Islamic education, as well as the challenges and opportunities faced in the ever-changing global context.

The data collection process begins with the identification of relevant literature sources. Researchers conducted searches in various academic databases, such as Google Scholar, JSTOR, and ProQuest, using keywords related to Islamic education, character, morals, and value integration. In addition, the researchers also considered sources from reputable Islamic educational organizations and research institutions. This way, researchers can ensure that the information obtained is accurate and trustworthy.

After collecting data, the researcher conducted a qualitative analysis of the selected literature. This analysis includes grouping information based on key themes, such as the integration of Islamic values in the curriculum, the role of educators, and the importance of character education. The researchers also compared different approaches and practices found in the literature to identify the strengths and weaknesses of each. Thus, researchers can draw more comprehensive conclusions about the ideal Islamic education for the future.

Furthermore, the researcher also synthesized the findings obtained from the literature analysis. This synthesis aims to connect the various elements that have been analyzed and develop recommendations that can be applied in the development of Islamic education. The researcher strives to present the findings in a systematic and easy-to-understand form, so that they can make a meaningful contribution to the development of educational policies and practices in the field.

This methodology is expected to provide in-depth insights into the ideal Islamic education for the future. With a comprehensive literature analysis approach, the study not only focuses on theory, but also considers best practices that exist in various contexts. The results of this research are expected to be a reference for educators, policymakers, and other researchers who are interested in the development of better and relevant Islamic education in the modern era.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Islamic education is a process that aims to develop the potential of individuals as a whole, both in terms of intellectual, emotional, and spiritual. The definition of Islamic education can be understood as a systematic effort to transfer knowledge, values, and skills in accordance with Islamic teachings to the younger generation. This process not only focuses on the academic aspect, but also includes the formation of good character and morals, so that individuals can behave in accordance with Islamic principles in daily life. Thus, Islamic education functions as a means to form a balanced human being between science and morality (Al-Qurtubi, M. (2020).

The main goal of Islamic education is to create individuals who believe and fear Allah, and who have extensive knowledge and adequate skills. In this context, Islamic education plays an important role in shaping the character and morals of students, so that they can become responsible individuals and contribute positively to society. In addition, Islamic education also aims to prepare a generation that is able to face the challenges of the times, both in social, economic, and technological aspects, while adhering to Islamic values (Mardani, A. (2023). Islamic education also has the goal of developing individual potential to the maximum. This

includes the development of cognitive, affective, and psychomotor aspects. In this case, Islamic education does not only emphasize the mastery of science, but also on the development of good attitudes and behaviors. Thus, students are expected to become individuals who are not only intelligent, but also have high integrity and morals. Islamic education seeks to create a generation that is able to think critically, creatively, and innovatively, as well as have concern for the environment and society.

In addition, Islamic education also aims to build social awareness and responsibility for the environment. In this context, Islamic education teaches the importance of human values, justice, and solidarity. Students are taught to care for others, as well as contribute to creating a harmonious and prosperous society. Thus, Islamic education does not only focus on individual development, but also on the formation of a better society (Syamsuddin, A. (2025).

Islamic education also serves as a tool to transfer Islamic culture and traditions to the younger generation. Through education, Islamic values and teachings can be passed down from one generation to the next. This is important to maintain the identity and character of Muslims in the midst of an increasingly strong globalization current. By understanding and living the teachings of Islam, the younger generation is expected to be good ambassadors of Islamic values in society, as well as be able to face cultural challenges that may be contrary to Islamic principles.

In this modern era, Islamic education must also be able to adapt to the times. Therefore, the purpose of Islamic education is not only limited to spiritual and moral aspects, but also includes the mastery of science and technology. An ideal Islamic education must be able to integrate Islamic values with modern science, so that students can become competitive and relevant individuals in the global world. Thus, Islamic

education can act as a bridge between tradition and modernity.

Effective Islamic education must involve all elements of society, including families, schools, and communities. Cooperation between these various parties is very important to achieve the goal of Islamic education optimally. With strong support from the surrounding environment, Islamic education can have a significant impact in shaping the character and morals of the younger generation. Therefore, it is important for all parties to play an active role in supporting Islamic education, so that the expected goals can be achieved and future generations can grow into qualified and noble individuals.

### **History and Development of Islamic Education Over Time**

The history of Islamic education began during the time of the Prophet Muhammad SAW, who was the founder of Islam. At that time, education was carried out informally through direct teaching in mosques and in the community. The Prophet Muhammad taught Islamic values, morals, and basic knowledge to his companions and followers. This educational process not only focuses on the spiritual aspect, but also includes the development of character and social skills. In this way, Islamic education was first introduced as a system that prioritizes moral and ethical values (Hidayat, A. (2023).

After the time of the Prophet, Islamic education continued to develop along with the spread of Islam to various regions. During the Khulafaur Rasyidin, formal education began to be introduced with the construction of madrassas and other educational institutions. This is where scholars and scholars began to teach science, both religious and general. Madrassas became important learning centers, where students learned to read, write, and understand Islamic teachings. This development shows that Islamic education is not only limited to the spiritual aspect, but also includes the mastery of science (Supriyadi, A. (2023)

During the Umayyad and Abbasid dynasties, Islamic education made rapid progress. Many educational institutions, such as the baitul hikmah in Baghdad, were established to develop science. This is where Muslim scientists conduct research and writing in a variety of fields, including mathematics, astronomy, medicine, and philosophy. Islamic education at this time became very diverse, with the teaching of Arabic, literature, and other sciences. This shows that Islamic education does not only function to deepen religion, but also to advance human civilization.

Entering the Middle Ages, Islamic education began to experience challenges, especially with the emergence of colonialism in various parts of the world. Many Muslim countries are colonized by foreign powers, which has an impact on the existing education system. Islamic education is often marginalized, and many traditional educational institutions are closed. However, in the midst of these challenges, reformist figures emerged who tried to return Islamic education to the right track. They introduced more modern teaching methods and sought to integrate general science with Islamic teachings.

In Indonesia, Islamic education began to develop since the arrival of Muslim scholars and traders in the 13th century. Pesantren is an important educational institution in spreading Islamic teachings and teaching various sciences. During the Dutch colonial period, Islamic education experienced various challenges, but it survived and adapted to existing conditions. After independence, Islamic education grew with the establishment of various formal educational institutions, such as madrasas, Islamic schools, and Islamic colleges.

Along with the times, Islamic education has also undergone significant transformation. In the 20th century, various modern Islamic educational institutions emerged that adopted national and international curricula. Islamic education now focuses not only on religious teaching, but also

includes science and technology. This aims to prepare the younger generation to be able to compete at the global level, while still adhering to Islamic values. Thus, Islamic education continues to adapt to the times, without neglecting its traditional roots.

Currently, Islamic education faces new challenges in the era of globalization and digitalization. The emergence of information and communication technology has changed the way of learning and teaching. Islamic education must be able to utilize technology to improve the quality of learning and reach more students. In addition, Islamic education must also be able to answer moral and ethical challenges that arise due to the influence of foreign cultures. Thus, the history and development of Islamic education over time shows that this education continues to transform, adapt, and innovate to meet the needs of society and the challenges of the times.

### **Principles of Islamic Education**

The following are some of the principles of Islamic education that are the basis for the development of an education system that is in accordance with Islamic teachings:

**Integration of Science and Religion:** Islamic education emphasizes the importance of integrating general science with religious teachings. This aims to ensure that students not only understand the spiritual aspect, but also have extensive knowledge in various fields. Thus, Islamic education serves to form individuals who are balanced between science and moral values (Mulyadi, A. (2024).

**Holistic:** Islamic education is holistic, which means that education focuses not only on the academic aspect, but also on the development of character, emotional, and spiritual. Education must encompass all dimensions of human life, so that learners can grow into wholesome and balanced individuals.

**Active Involvement of Students:** In Islamic education, students are expected to be actively involved in the learning process. The teaching

methods used should encourage participation, discussion, and exploration, so that students can develop critical and creative thinking skills. This active involvement also helps students to better understand and internalize the values taught.

**Character and Morals Formation:** One of the main goals of Islamic education is to form good character and morals in students. Education must emphasize the importance of moral, ethical, and moral values in every aspect of life. Thus, students are expected to become responsible, honest, and caring individuals for others.

**Contextuality:** Islamic education must be relevant to the social, cultural, and environmental context in which the learner is located. The curriculum and teaching methods must be adapted to the needs and challenges faced by the community. In this way, Islamic education can provide appropriate and beneficial solutions for the development of individuals and society.

**Independence and Responsibility:** Islamic education teaches the importance of independence and responsibility. Students are expected to be able to make good decisions, take responsibility for their actions, and contribute positively to society. Education should equip students with the skills and knowledge necessary to face life's challenges.

**Connection with Society:** Islamic education is not separate from society. Therefore, education must involve collaboration between schools, families, and communities. This collaboration is important to create an environment that supports the learning process and character development of students. Thus, Islamic education can contribute to building a better society.

### **The Ideal Islamic Education Curriculum in the Future**

The ideal Islamic education curriculum in the future must be able to integrate religious values with relevant science and technology. In an ever-changing global context, it is important for the curriculum to not only focus on teaching religious material, but also to cover a wide range

of disciplines that can help learners understand and meet the challenges of the times. Thus, the curriculum must be designed in such a way that it can provide comprehensive knowledge, so that students not only become experts in the field of religion, but also have the necessary skills to compete in the modern world (Nasution, S. (2022).

One of the important aspects of an ideal Islamic education curriculum is the emphasis on character education. Character education must be an integral part of the curriculum, with the aim of shaping the morals and morals of students. Through the teaching of values such as honesty, responsibility, and social care, students are expected to internalize these principles in their daily lives. Thus, Islamic education not only functions as a transfer of knowledge, but also as a process of forming a complete character (Rahman, F. (2025).

The ideal Islamic education curriculum must also be contextual, meaning it must be tailored to the needs and challenges faced by the community. In this regard, it is important to involve a wide range of stakeholders, including educators, parents, and the community, in curriculum development. By involving various parties, the curriculum can reflect relevant local and cultural values, so that Islamic education can have a more significant impact on students and society (Tanjung, M. (2022).

In addition, the Islamic education curriculum must utilize information and communication technology to improve the quality of learning. In today's digital era, the use of technology in education is a must. The ideal curriculum should include teaching about digital literacy, social media utilization, and other technological skills. Thus, students will not only have a strong knowledge of religion, but also the skills necessary to adapt to rapid technological developments.

The importance of developing critical and creative thinking skills should also be a focus in

the Islamic education curriculum. Students need to be taught to analyze information, evaluate arguments, and develop solutions to complex problems. By developing these skills, learners will be better prepared to face real-world challenges and be able to contribute positively in society. An ideal Islamic education should be able to create an environment that supports exploration and innovation, so that students can learn in a fun and meaningful way.

The ideal Islamic education curriculum must also pay attention to the health and welfare aspects of students. Education about physical, mental, and emotional health should be part of the curriculum, so that students can understand the importance of maintaining health and balance in life. By providing knowledge about health, students are expected to develop a healthy and balanced lifestyle, which in turn will support a more effective learning process.

Evaluation and assessment in the Islamic education curriculum must be carried out holistically. Assessments not only focus on the academic aspect, but also include measurements of students' character, social skills, and critical thinking abilities. With a comprehensive assessment approach, educators can get a clearer picture of learners' progress and provide constructive feedback. Thus, the ideal Islamic education curriculum in the future must be able to create a generation that is not only academically intelligent, but also has good morals and is ready to face global challenges.

### **Challenges and Opportunities in Islamic Education**

Islamic education today faces various complex challenges, especially in the era of globalization and rapid technological development. One of the main challenges is the shift in cultural and moral values that occur due to the influence of foreign cultures. Today's young generation is exposed to various information and lifestyles that often contradict the teachings of Islam. This can lead to an identity crisis and reduce students' interest in

religious education. Therefore, it is important for Islamic educators and educational institutions to find effective ways to integrate Islamic values into the curriculum and teaching methods, so that students remain a strong grip in the face of the current of change (Wibowo, S. (2024)

In addition, another challenge faced by Islamic education is the limitation of resources, both in terms of finance and infrastructure. Many Islamic educational institutions, especially in remote areas, have difficulty in providing adequate facilities and access to modern educational technologies. These limitations can hinder the learning process and reduce the quality of education provided. Therefore, support from the government, the community, and private institutions is needed to improve the quality of Islamic education through investment in infrastructure and training for educators.

On the other hand, this challenge also opens up opportunities for Islamic education to innovate and adapt to the times. One of the opportunities that can be taken advantage of is the use of information and communication technology in the learning process. By utilizing digital platforms, Islamic education can reach more students, including those in remote areas. In addition, technology also allows the development of more interactive and interesting learning materials, so that it can increase students' interest in religious education. Thus, Islamic education can be transformed to be more relevant and attractive to the younger generation (Zainuddin, A. (2025).

Another opportunity that can be taken advantage of is increasing public awareness of the importance of character and moral education. In this context, Islamic education has a very important role in shaping the morals and character of the younger generation. By emphasizing moral and ethical values in the curriculum, Islamic education can make a significant contribution in creating individuals who are responsible and caring for others. This

awareness can be a momentum for Islamic educational institutions to strengthen their role in shaping the character and morals of students, so that they can compete with other educational institutions.

Challenges and opportunities in Islamic education should be seen as part of an interconnected process. Although there are various challenges that must be faced, Islamic education also has many opportunities to develop and adapt to the needs of the times. With an innovative and collaborative approach, Islamic education can continue to contribute to creating a generation that is not only academically intelligent, but also has good morals and is ready to face global challenges. Therefore, it is important for all stakeholders, including governments, educators, and the community, to work together to address the challenges and seize the opportunities that exist for the advancement of Islamic education in the future.

## **CONCLUSION**

The ideal Islamic education for the future must be able to integrate spiritual, moral, and intellectual values in a curriculum that is relevant to the development of the times. Through a holistic approach, education not only functions as a transfer of knowledge, but also as a process of forming a whole character. The importance of character education and the role of educators as role models are the key to creating a generation that is not only intelligent, but also has good morals and social awareness. Thus, Islamic education can contribute significantly in shaping

individuals who are ready to face global challenges and play an active role in society. In addition, collaboration between various parties, including the government, educational institutions, and the community, is indispensable to create an educational ecosystem that supports the development of an ideal Islamic education. The recommendations resulting from this study include the development of a contextual curriculum, training for educators, and an emphasis on character education. With these steps, it is hoped that Islamic education can adapt to the dynamics of the times and remain relevant, so as to be able to create a quality and noble generation in the future.

Rahman, F. (2025). Analysis of the role of Islamic education in shaping the moral character of individuals. *Morals: Journal of Islamic Education Studies*, 6(1), 123-135.

Syamsuddin, A. (2025). *Character Education in Islam: Concept and Implementation*. Jakarta: RajaGrafindo Persada.

Supriyadi, A. (2023). *Innovation in Islamic Education: Challenges and Opportunities*. Jakarta: Bumi Aksara.

Tanjung, M. (2022). *Islamic Education Methodology*. Yogyakarta: Deepublish.

Wibowo, S. (2024). *Islamic Education: Theory and Practice in Schools*. Jakarta: Kencana.

Zainuddin, A. (2025). *Islamic Education and Its Development in Indonesia*. Bandung: Alfabeta.

Zulkarnain, M. (2023). *Islamic Education: Concepts and Implementation in Modern Society*. Jakarta: Prenada Media.

## REFERENCES

Al-Attas, S. M. N. (2021). *Islamic Education: A General View*. Jakarta: Prenada Media.

Al-Qurtubi, M. (2020). Character Education in an Islamic Perspective. *Journal of Islamic Education*, 6(1), 45-60.

Hamid, A. (2022). *Islamic Religious Education Curriculum: Theory and Practice*. Yogyakarta: Student Library.

Hidayat, A. (2023). Project-Based Learning in Islamic Religious Education. *Journal of Islamic Education*, 9(1), 45-60.

Mardani, A. (2023). *Islamic Education in the Digital Era*. Jakarta: Kencana.

Mulyadi, A. (2024). Innovative Learning Strategies in Islamic Religious Education. *Scientific Journal of Islamic Education*, 10(2), 78-90.

Nasution, S. (2022). The Influence of Learning Methods on Student Learning Outcomes in Islamic Religious Education. *Journal of Islamic Education and Learning*, 8(3), 101-115.